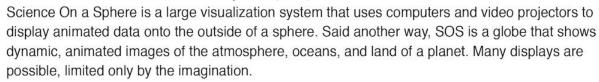


Science On a Sphere®

System Basics



Q. What is NOAA's Science On a Sphere (SOS)?

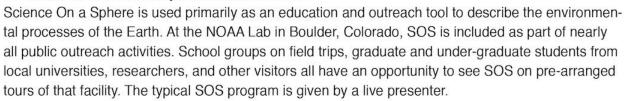




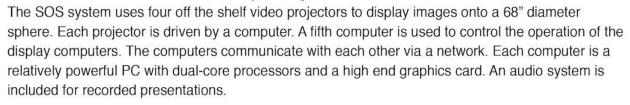


Current NOAA installations include Planet Theater® at the NOAA Earth System Research Laboratory in Boulder, Colorado. Additional systems have been and are being installed at a growing number of museums, science centers, and universities throughout the U.S. and the world. See http://sos.noaa.gov/news/sos_sites.html for a current list of installations, including some photographs.

Q. How is Science On a Sphere used at NOAA?



Q. What constitutes a Science On a Sphere system?



Q. Can SOS run in an automatic or unattended mode of operation?

Yes. Visualizations for SOS are organized into play lists. These play lists are simple text files that are used to organize visualizations. The system loads a play list and through a couple of clicks, is set up to automatically loop through each item in the play list. SOS can play audio in sync with datasets, or can also play movies when processed through an editor and run though the SOS software.

Q. Where can I find additional information on Science On a Sphere?

The best place to start is at our website: www.sos.noaa.gov. for information on the basic SOS floorplan, go to sos.noaa.gov/schoolMaterials. To see a partial list of datasets and visualizations included with SOS, go to http://sos.noaa.gov/datasets/.

Q. Who do I contact to discuss specific questions I may have for my museum or science center?

Start by contacting Bill Bendel at *william.b.bendel@noaa.gov* or 303-497-6708. He will answer your questions or give you access to someone who can.



